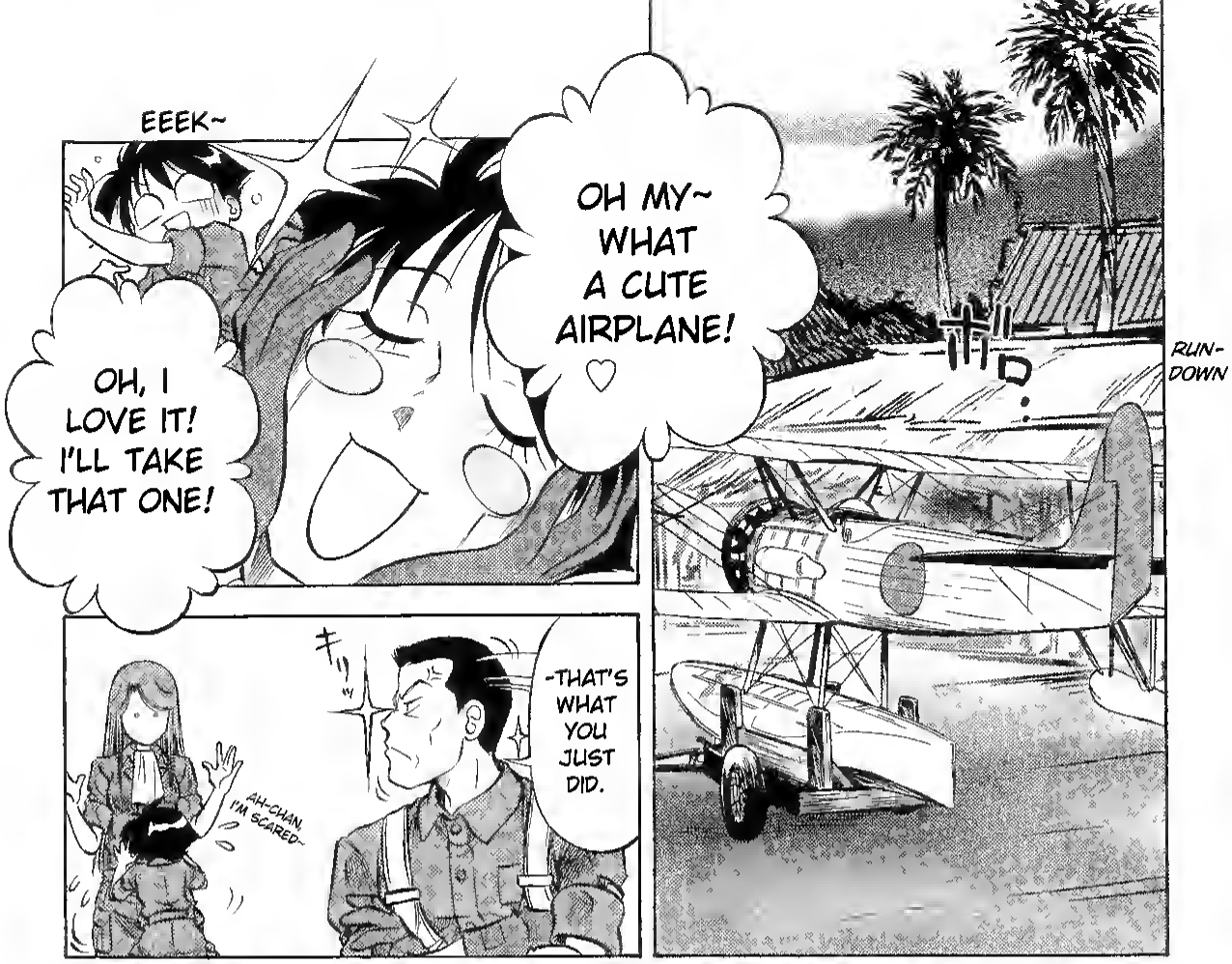
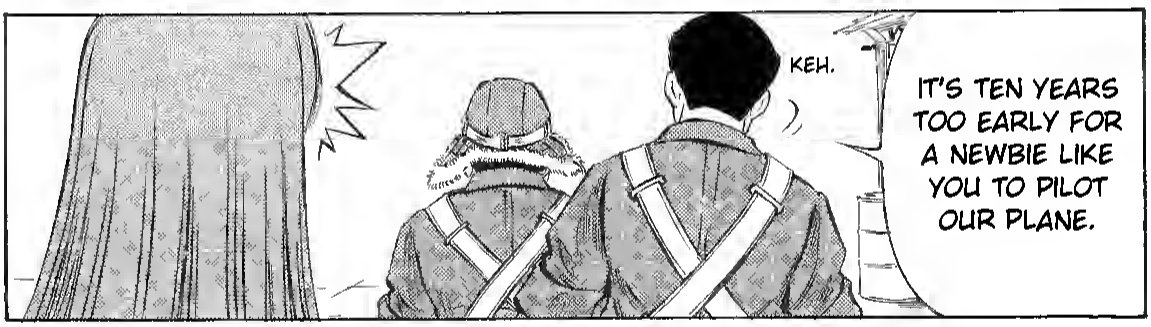
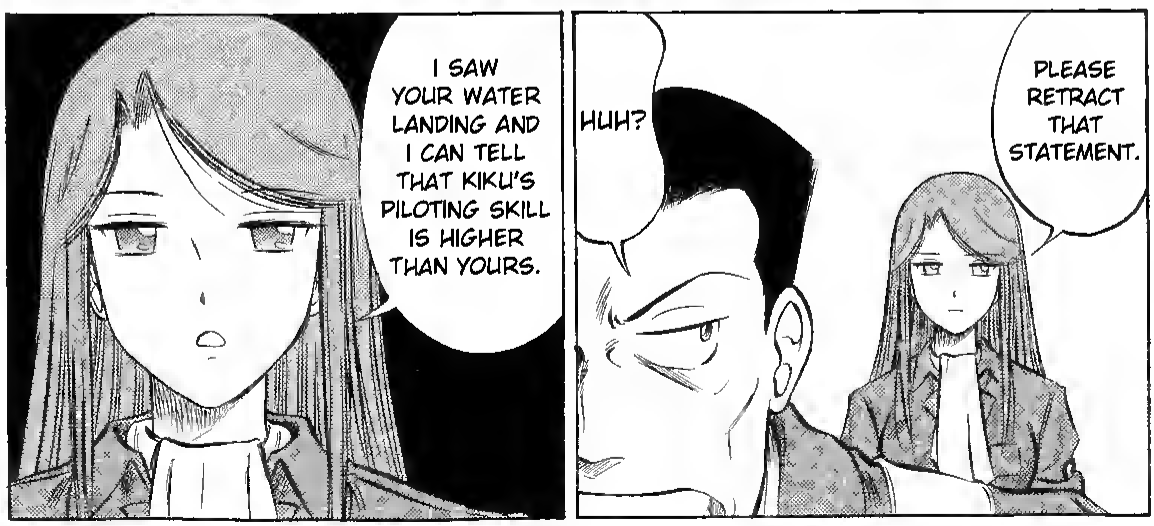
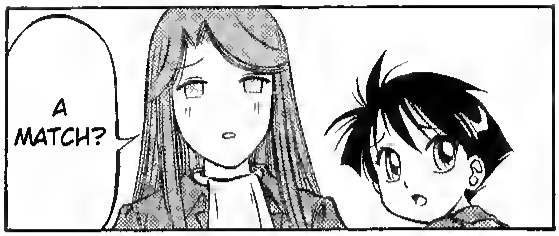
Ch. 17
Records of the stop in Penang (part 2)
HUH?
WE HAVE TO GIVE YOU OUR PLANE?
THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
READ THE MOOD, LITTLE BEAN.
ITO
ITO
LITTLE BEAN...
BUT, BUT!
I WAS TOLD I COULD TAKE ANY ONE I WANTED...
TAKE A LOOK AT THAT, WILL YA.


EEEK~
OH MY~ WHAT A CUTE AIRPLANE! ♡
OH, I LOVE IT! I'LL TAKE THAT ONE!
RUN-DOWN
-THAT'S WHAT YOU JUST DID.
AH-CHAN, I'M SCARED~

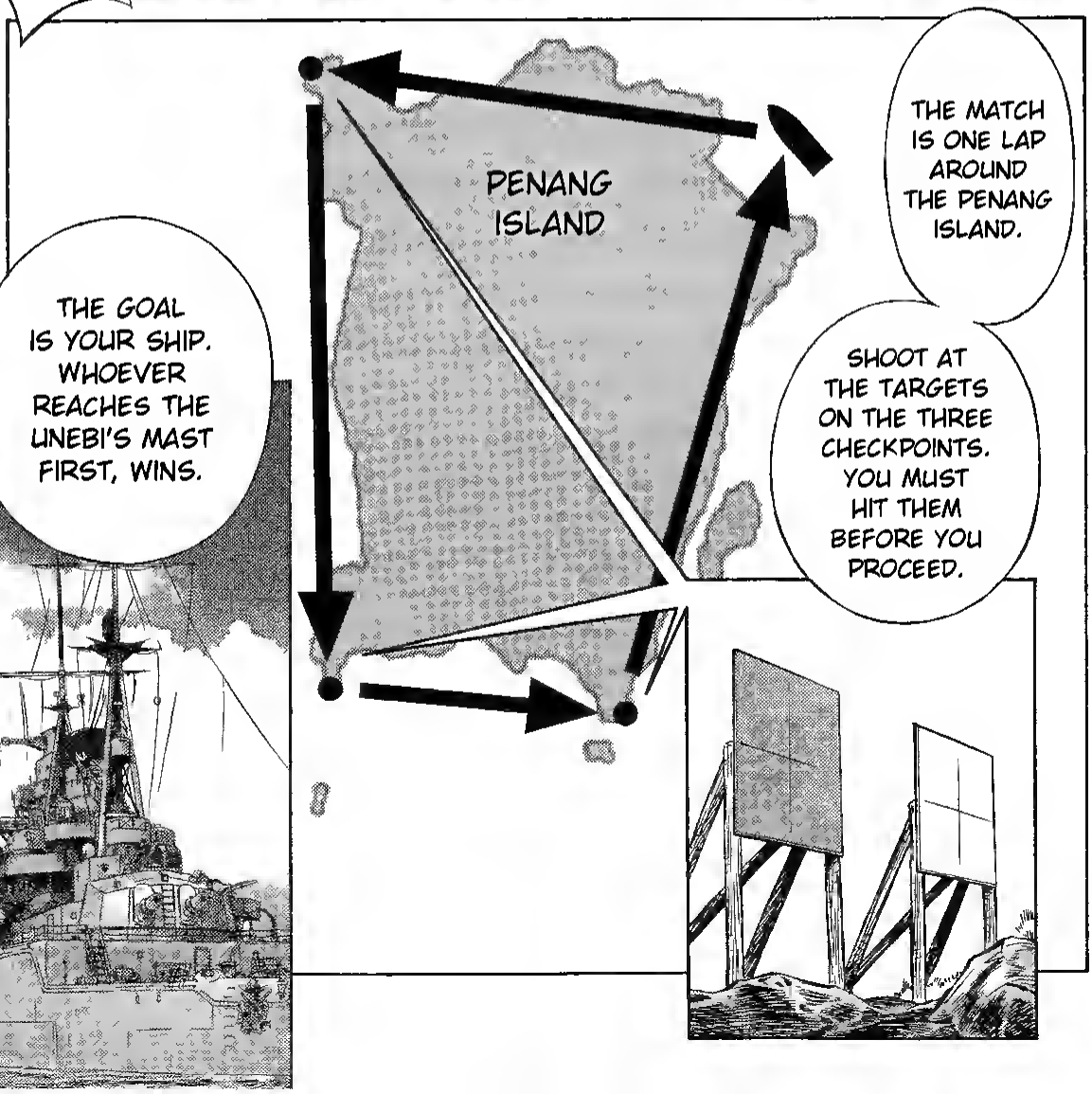

KEH.
IT'S TEN YEARS TOO EARLY FOR A NEWBIE LIKE YOU TO PILOT OUR PLANE.


I SAW YOUR WATER LANDING AND I CAN TELL THAT KIKU'S PILOTING SKILL IS HIGHER THAN YOURS.
HUH?
PLEASE RETRACT THAT STATEMENT.


A MATCH?

OH... YOU JUST SAID SOMETHING PRETTY INTERESTING, MISS GIANT.
IF YOU'RE SO CONFIDENT IN YOUR SKILL, HOW ABOUT HAVING A LITTLE MATCH WITH US?

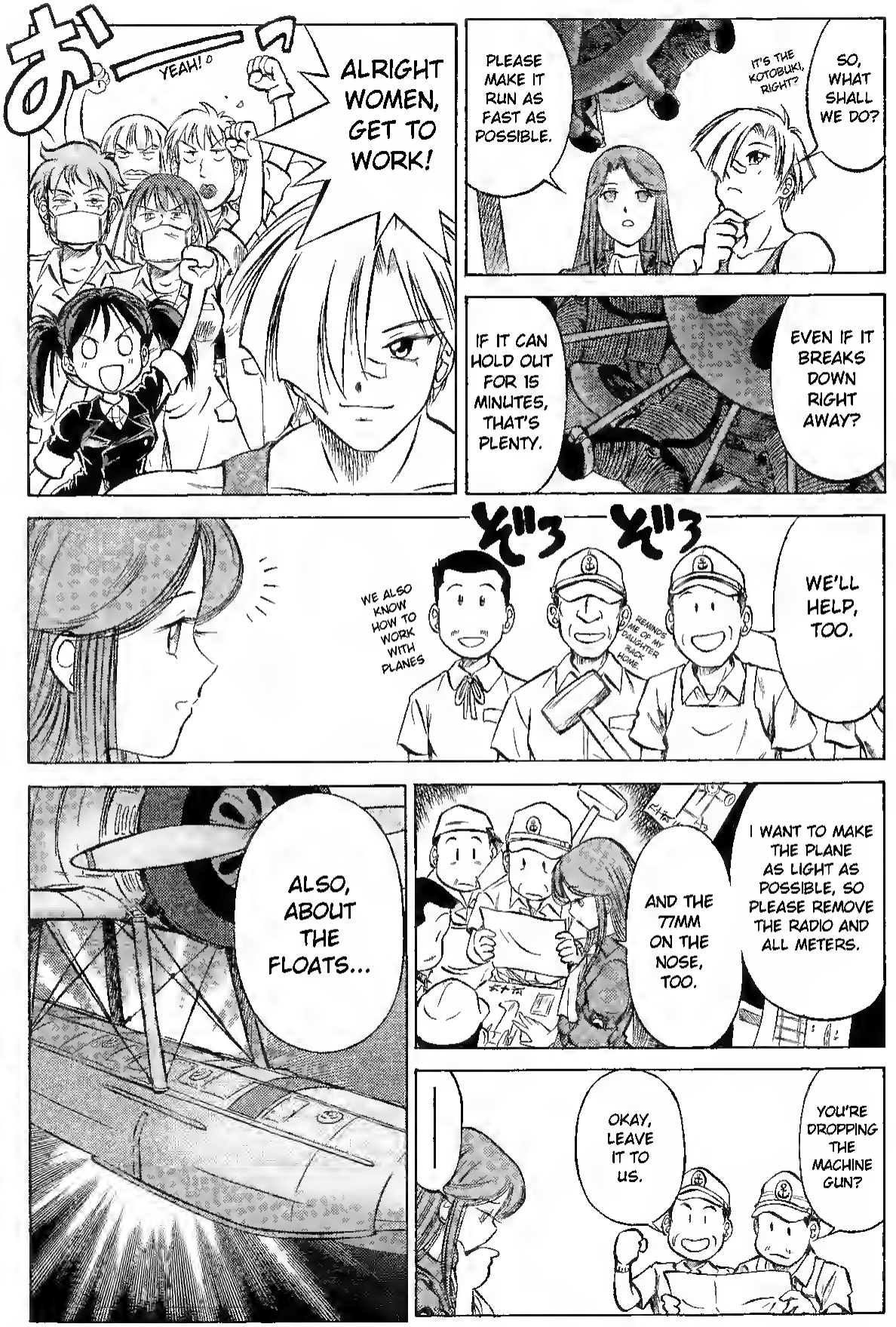
OF COURSE, YOU CAN TAKE YOUR BELOVED TYPE-9* RECON FLOATPLANE.
WE'LL EACH USE OUR FAVO-RITE PLANES.
I DON'T LOVE IT!


PENANG ISLAND
THE MATCH IS ONE LAP AROUND THE PENANG ISLAND.
SHOOT AT THE TARGETS ON THE THREE CHECKPOINTS. YOU MUST HIT THEM BEFORE YOU PROCEED.
THE GOAL IS YOUR SHIP. WHOEVER REACHES THE UNEBI'S MAST FIRST, WINS.

HOW-EVER, IF YOU LOSE...
...WE'LL HAVE THE ENTIRE CREW OF THE UNEBI MARCH NAKED ON THE MAIN STREET!
IF YOU WIN, WE'LL LET YOU HAVE OUR PLANE...
WE WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE...
THERE'S A DIFFERENCE IN SPEED OF MORE THAN 100KM/H...
SOUNDS INTERES-TING.
OR MAYBE YOU DON'T HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE IN YOUR BODY? HUH?
WHAT'S WRONG? WHERE'S THAT CONFIDENCE FROM BEFORE? YOU WON'T TAKE US ON?

E-
WE ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE!
XO--?!
HMM... RAISE THEM ANOTHER 5CM.
IS THE HEIGHT OF THE PEDALS OKAY?
THE MATCH WAS SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW AT NOON.
YES, MA'AM...
YOU TWO DEFINITELY HAVE TO WIN TOMORROW. UNDERSTAND?!

THEY'RE REPULSIVE
MEN DISGUST ME
JUST AS I THOUGHT, XO. THAT'S HOW IT IS, RIGHT?♡
DON'T WORRY, WE'LL WIN FOR SURE!
STILL, WHY DID YOU ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE? I DON'T WANNA GET NAKED.
ポン ポン
MEN OF THAT SORT REALLY DISGUST ME. THEY'RE REPULSIVE.
MEN SHOULD BE MORE GENTLEMANLY, LIKE THE CAPTAIN
AH!
TOTALLY GROSS
!
YO, UNEVEN PAIR. YOU'RE DOING SOMETHING PRETTY INTERESTING HERE, HUH?
CHIEF ENGINEER KOBAYAKAWA!
LET ME IN ON THE FUN, TOO.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YEAH!
ALRIGHT WOMEN, GET TO WORK!
PLEASE MAKE IT RUN AS FAST AS POSSIBLE.
IT'S THE KOTOBUKI, RIGHT?
SO, WHAT SHALL WE DO?
IF IT CAN HOLD OUT FOR 15 MINUTES, THAT'S PLENTY.
EVEN IF IT BREAKS DOWN RIGHT AWAY?
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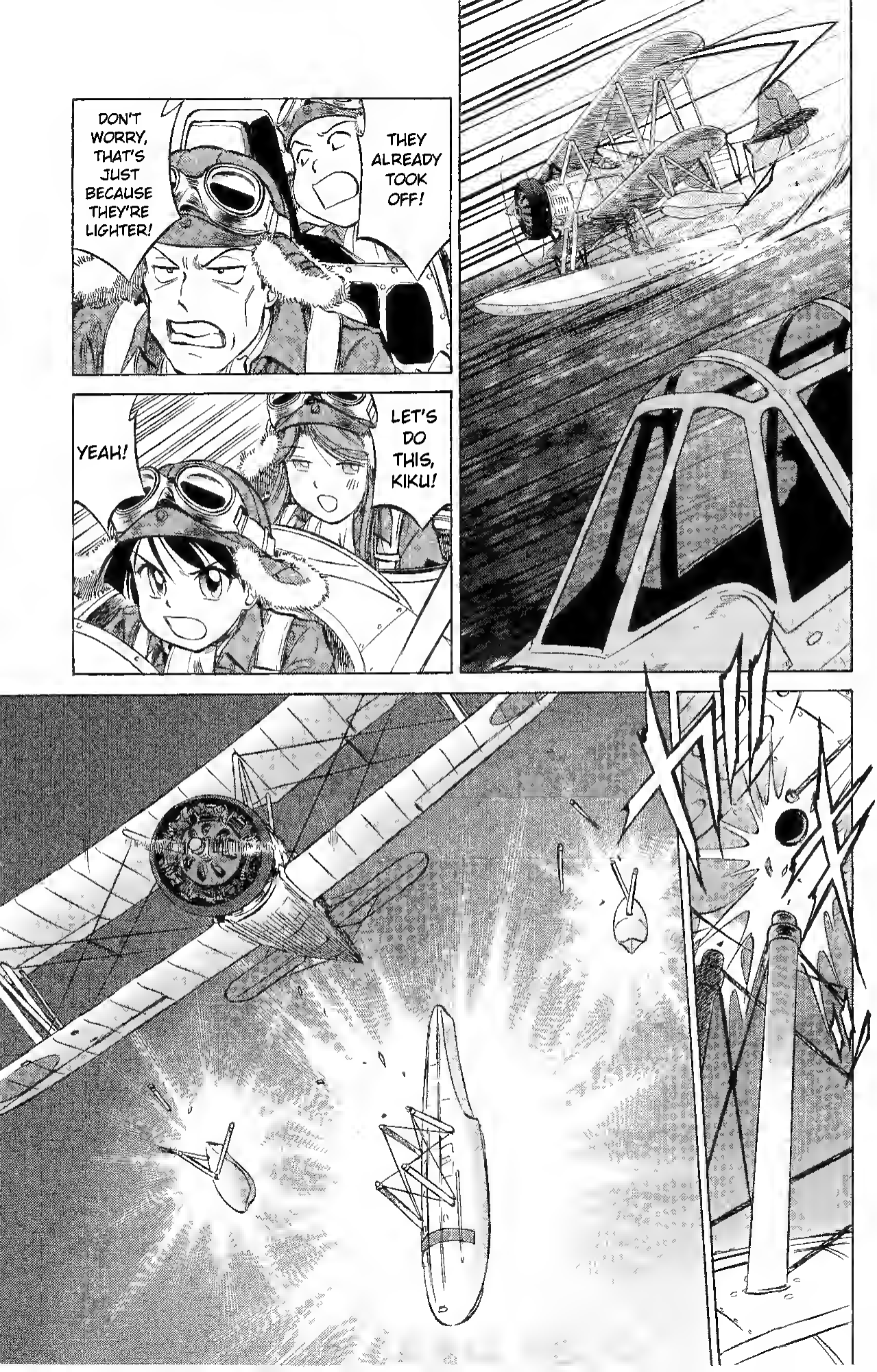
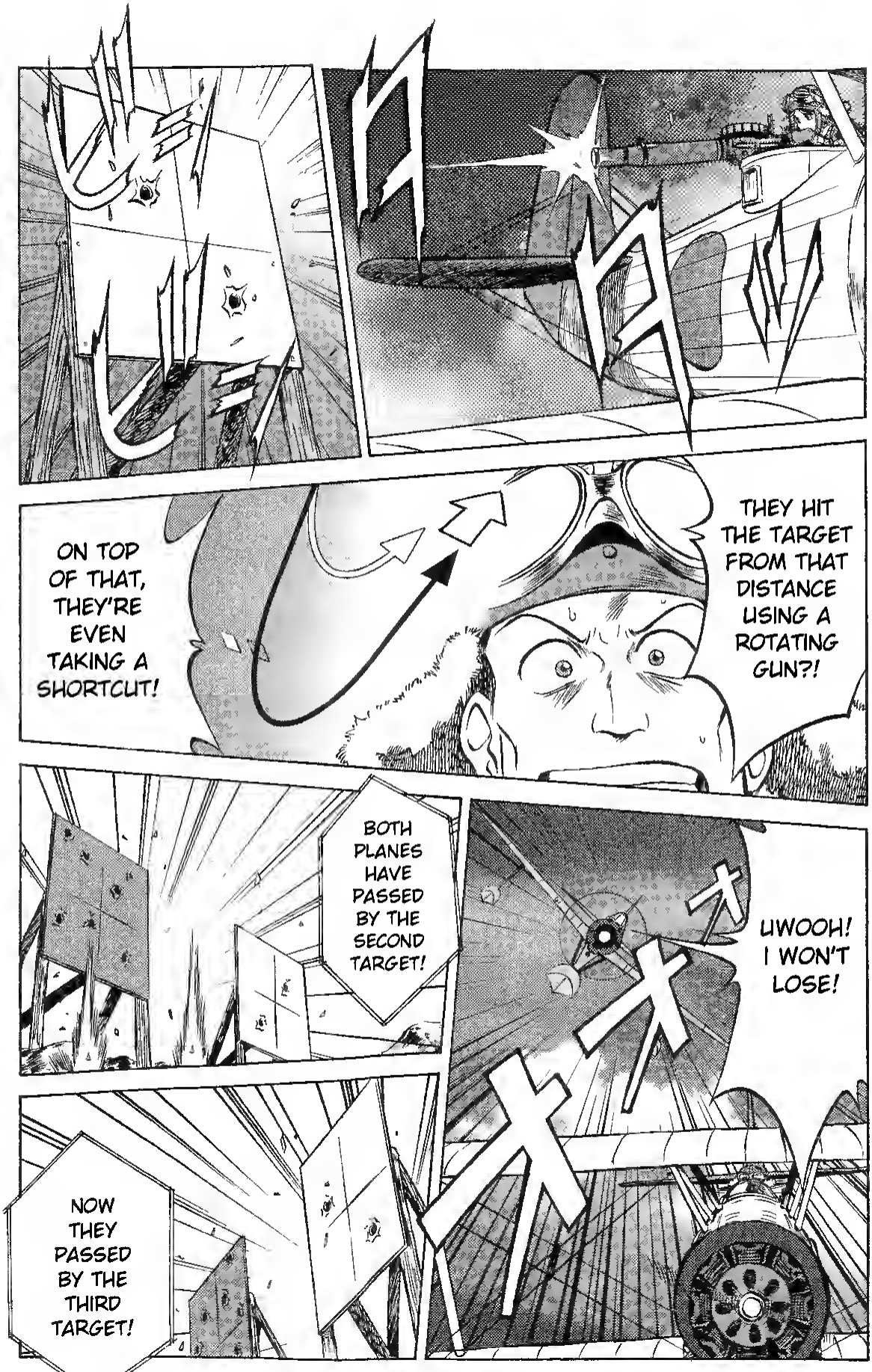
WE ALSO KNOW HOW TO WORK WITH PLANES
REMINDS ME OF MY DAUGHTER BACK HOME.
WE'LL HELP, TOO.
ALSO, ABOUT THE FLOATS...
I WANT TO MAKE THE PLANE AS LIGHT AS POSSIBLE, SO PLEASE REMOVE THE RADIO AND ALL METERS.
AND THE 77MM ON THE NOSE, TOO.
YOU'RE DROPPING THE MACHINE GUN?
OKAY, LEAVE IT TO US.

おお
OOOH!
IF THE UNEVEN PAIR LOSES, THE ENTIRE CREW OF THE UNEBI WILL STAGE A GREAT NAKED PARADE!
TODAY, UNDER THIS BLUE SKY, THE FIRST CONTEST BETWEEN THE TYPE-2 SEA FIGHTERS (CUSTOM), A RACE AROUND THE PENANG ISLAND, IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!
THE MORALE ON THE PENANG BASE IS RISING ALL THE MORE!
PERSONALLY, I WOULDN'T MIND GIVING THIS NAKED PARADE THING A TRY, REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME!
BOTH CONTESTANTS ARE FIRED UP!
WELL THEN, START!


DON'T WORRY, THAT'S JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE LIGHTER!
THEY ALREADY TOOK OFF!
YEAH!
LET'S DO THIS, KIKU!

IDIOTS. WITHOUT THE FLOATS THEY'LL LOSE THEIR BALANCE AND WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP FLYING...
THEY LOST THEIR FLOATS...
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?!
T-THEY'RE STILL ON THE AIR...
NO, THEY DROPPED THEM ON PURPOSE?!
HOWEVER, WE'RE STILL FASTER!
!
I SEE IT! THE FIRST TARGET!

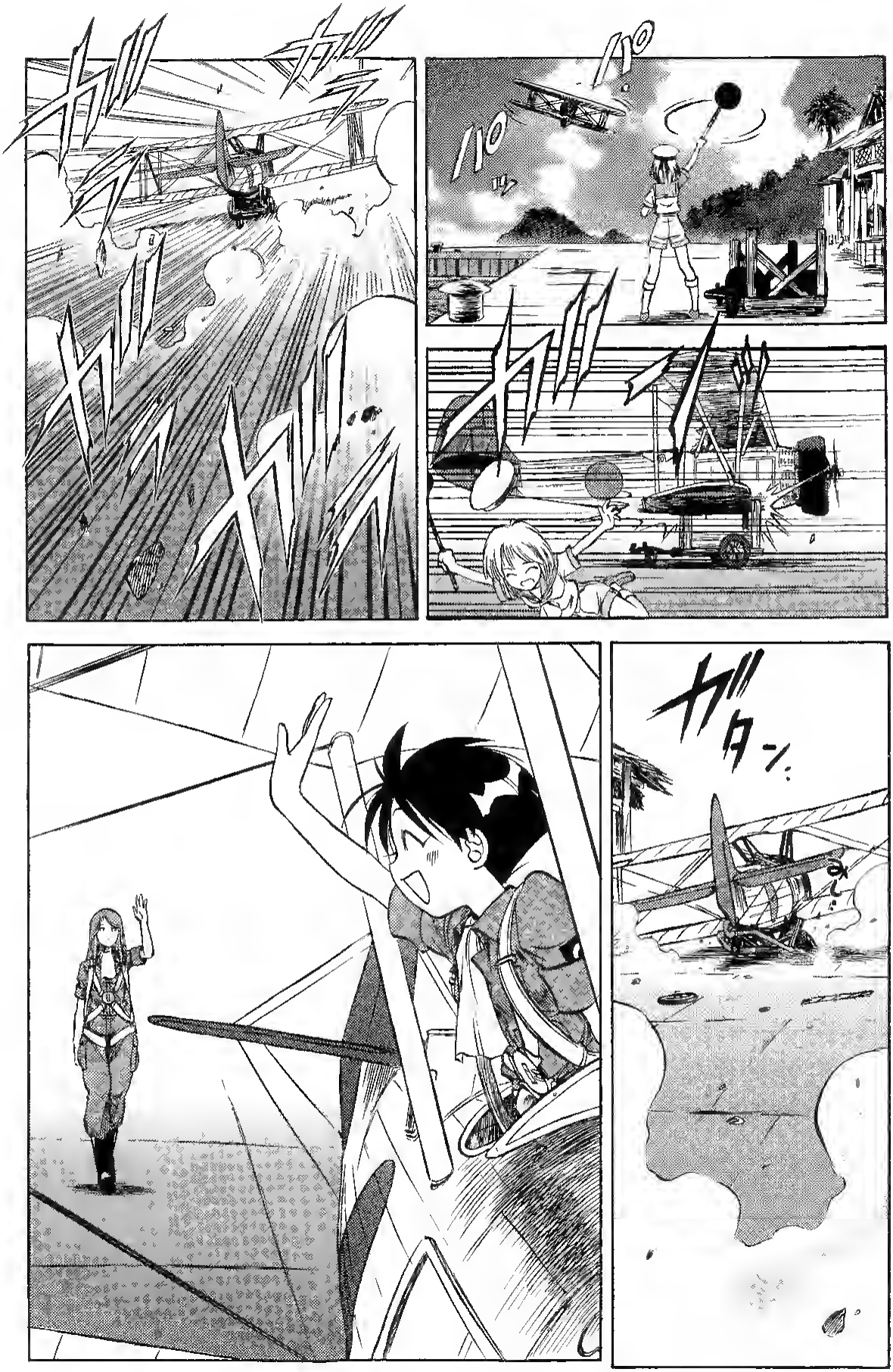
ALRIGHT!
DID YOU SEE THAT, YOU AMATEURS?!
WHERE ARE YOU EVEN GOING?!
THE TARGET ISN'T THAT WAY!
!?


THEY HIT THE TARGET FROM THAT DISTANCE USING A ROTATING GUN?!
ON TOP OF THAT, THEY'RE EVEN TAKING A SHORTCUT!
UWOOH! I WON'T LOSE!
BOTH PLANES HAVE PASSED BY THE SECOND TARGET!
NOW THEY PASSED BY THE THIRD TARGET!

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO FLY TOWARDS THE UNEBI AT FULL SPEED!
THEY'RE HEAD TO HEAD!
DO YOUR BEST, KIKU.
THANKS, AH-CHAN.

WHAAAT?!
ROAR, KOTOBUKI!

I-I LOST...



Ch.17 END